

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Currently amended) A method of preparing a polymeric aryl sulfonamide pigment dispersing agent comprising reacting a monocyclic aryl sulfonyl with an aliphatic polymeric amine in the presence of an acid acceptor, wherein said polymeric aryl sulfonamide is selected from the group consisting of ~~polymeric monoaryl sulfonamide, paratoluene sulfonyl chloride, polymeric diaryl sulfonamide and polymeric triaryl sulfonamide.~~
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said aryl sulfonyl is ~~an aryl monosulfonyl or an aryl disulfonyl.~~
4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said aryl disulfonyl is an aryl disulfonyl halide.
5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein said aryl disulfonyl halide is an aryl disulfonyl chloride.
6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said aryl disulfonyl chloride is 4,4'-di(chlorosulfonyl)diphenyl methane or 4,4'-di(chlorosulfonyl)diphenyl ether.
7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said polymeric amine is selected from the group consisting of polymeric monoamine, polymeric diamine and polymeric triamine.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said acid acceptor is sodium carbonate.

9. (Previously presented) A polymeric aryl sulfonamide prepared according to the method of claim 2.

10. (Original) A method of preparing a polymeric aryl sulfonamide comprising:

(a) reacting an aryl sulfonyl with a polymeric diamine in the presence of an acid acceptor to result in a linear oligomeric molecule; and

(b) reacting said linear oligomeric molecule with a monoamine or an aryl monosulfonyl in the presence of an acid acceptor.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said polymeric aryl sulfonamide is selected from the group consisting of polymeric monoaryl sulfonamide, polymeric diaryl sulfonamide and polymeric triaryl sulfonamide.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said aryl sulfonyl is an aryl monosulfonyl or an aryl disulfonyl.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said aryl disulfonyl is an aryl disulfonyl halide.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said aryl disulfonyl halide is an aryl disulfonyl chloride.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said aryl disulfonyl chloride is 4,4'-di(chlorosulfonyl)diphenyl methane or 4,4'-di(chlorosulfonyl)diphenyl ether.

16. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said aryl monosulfonyl is an aryl monosulfonyl halide.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said aryl monosulfonyl halide is paratoluene sulfonyl chloride.

18. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said polymeric diamine is an amine terminated polypropylene glycol.

19. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the monoamine of step (b) is ethylamine.

20. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said acid acceptor is sodium carbonate.

21. (Original) A polymeric aryl sulfonamide prepared according to the method of claim 10.

22. (Currently amended) A method of preparing an ink composition comprising dispersing a pigment in the presence of a polymeric aryl sulfonamide prepared ~~according to the method of claim 2~~ by reacting an aryl sulfonyl with a polymeric amine in the presence of an acid acceptor, wherein said polymeric aryl sulfonamide is selected from the group consisting of polymeric monoaryl sulfonamide, polymeric diaryl sulfonamide and polymeric triaryl sulfonamide.

23. (Original) A method of preparing an ink composition comprising dispersing a pigment in the presence of a polymeric aryl sulfonamide prepared according to the method of claim 10.

24. (Currently amended) A method of preparing an ink composition comprising wetting a pigment dispersion in the presence of polymeric aryl sulfonamide

prepared according to the method of claim 2 by reacting an aryl sulfonyl with a polymeric amine in the presence of an acid acceptor, wherein said polymeric aryl sulfonamide is selected from the group consisting of polymeric monoaryl sulfonamide, polymeric diaryl sulfonamide and polymeric triaryl sulfonamide.

25. (Original) A method of preparing an ink composition comprising wetting a pigment dispersion in the presence of a polymeric aryl sulfonamide prepared according to the method of claim 10.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently amended) The method of claim 26, wherein said polymeric aryl monosulfonyl halide sulfonyl is paratoluene sulfonyl chloride.